

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
IO-14 ACDA-12 AF-10 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01
TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NRC-07
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5062

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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TAGS: PEPR, YO, US

SUBJECT: TITO VISIT

1. THE LOCAL MEDIA HAS BEEN GIVING ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED
COVERAGE TO TITO'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON. TV ZAGREB HAS CARRIED
TWO SPECIAL TRANSMISSIONS VIA SATELLITE AND HAS BROADCAST LONG
VIDEOTAPE EXTRACTS OF TITO'S ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON DURING
THE REGULAR NEWSCASTS. THE ZAGREB DAILY PRESS HAS DEVOTED
PAGES TO NEWS ABOUT TITO; THE COVERAGE INCLUDED TEXTS OF OFFI-
CIAL TOASTS AND TITO'S PRESS INTERVIEWS.

2. ZAGREB'S MAJOR DAILY, VJESNIK, MARCH 9, DEVOTED ALMOST AN
ENTIRE PAGE TO THE SUMMARY REPORT BY ITS U.S. CORRESPONDENT,
VUKOV-COLIC. THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE MORE INTERESTING
POINTS HE MAKES:

(A) ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED THE INDE-
PENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF YUGOSLAVIA, THE CARTER
ADMINISTRATION HAS INTENSIFIED AND EXPANDED RELATIONS WITH
YUGOSLAVIA. THE CURRENT U.S. ATTITUDE IS REFLECTED IN THE
RESPECTFUL ATTITUDE BY CARTER TOWARDS TITO.

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(B) MORE FREQUENT CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS
HAVE LED AMERICAN OFFICIALS TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION FOR
THE SUPPORTIVE ROLE PLAYED BY YUGOSLAVIA AT THE BELGRADE
CONFERENCE, IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORTH-COMING SPECIAL UN
SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, AND WITH RESPECT TO THE CURRENT CRISIS
IN THE HORN OF AFRICA.

(C) SOME AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS ARE MISTAKENLY EXAGGERATING THE IMPORTANCE OF TALKS ABOUT ARM SALES TO YUGOSLAVIA. VUKOV-COLIC SAYS IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF BIG AGREEMENTS BECAUSE, AS MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION HAVE SAID, "WE ARE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH THE EXTRAORDINARILY IMPORTANT POLITICAL VISIT OF THE MOST EXPERIENCED WORLD STATESMAN, SO THAT ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE JUDGED TO BE A FAR MORE IMPORTANT MATTER."

(D) VANCE AND MINIC HAVE AGREED TO MAKE ORAL REPORTS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PRESIDENTS ON THE STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS SO THAT THE NEXT CARTER-TITO MEETING MIGHT BE DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS.

(E) ALTHOUGH FINAL DECISIONS HAVE NOT BEEN REACHED, BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO THE DESIRABILITY OF EXPANDING CONSIDERABLY U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

(F) AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED IN PRINCIPLE FOR EXPORT OF NUCLEAR FUEL FOR KRSKO WHICH WILL PERMIT THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT AS SCHEDULED. EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO TREAT THE MATTER IN AN INTERNATIONAL, RATHER THAN IN A PURELY BILATERAL, CONTEXT.

(G) DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ANTI-YUGOSLAV TERRORISM IN THE UNITED
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STATES ILLUMINATED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S. AND YUGOSLAV POSITIONS. WHEREAS THE UNITED STATES SEEKS A GENERAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT IN DEALING WITH TERRORISTS, THE YUGOSLAVS FEEL THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN TERRORISTS AND THOSE WHO ARE LEGITIMATE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, I.E. IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA.

(H) IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MEETINGS IN THE UNITED STATES, MINIC WILL TRAVEL TO ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA AND SUDAN TO DELIVER MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT TITO.

(I) WHILE THE YUGOSLAVS REGARD SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM AS A COURAGEOUS ACT, THEY BELIEVE THAT IT HAS NOT PRODUCED MAJOR RESULTS. SADAT DID NOT CONSULT WITH OTHER ARAB STATESMEN AND THUS DESTROYED THE UNITY OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES WHILE OPENING UP A NUMBER OF UNCERTAINTIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, VUKOV-COLIC REPORTS THAT VANCE BELIEVES THAT SADAT'S POLICY MIGHT STILL LEAD TO AGREEMENT AS IT OPENS UP A WHOLE SERIES OF POSSIBILITIES THAT DID NOT EXIST BEFORE. KAISER

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